

April 26, 1979

LB 355

SENATOR CLARK: ...that was going to do that.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I will. Is this going to raise the cost of small hospitals?

SENATOR CLARK: I think you may be right. I don't know. I have heard this before. The only reason I took the bill was they are going to close those departments you are talking about and they are not going to have any physical therapy at all unless they have a physical therapist there and that is the reason I sort of wanted the bill and took the bill in the first place. If you think it is going to raise the cost and hurt the hospitals, vote against it. I couldn't care less about this.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Clark, when they told you that they were going to close those departments, I really don't know whether they would do that or not because they are going to lose money. They are going to cut off their income and I think that is just an empty threat.

SENATOR CLARK: I am not talking about the hospitals. I am talking about the Department of Health (interruption).

SENATOR HABERMAN: I am talking about the physical therapist also. Okay, thank you, Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Thank you very kindly for turning me off. I know Senator Marvel would agree to that but here is what I am trying to say is that the department tells me that they are operating illegally now, even though like Senator Haberman says they are getting along fine. I am sure they are. The only thing is if they are going to close those little hospitals they are going to take those people out because they are operating illegally in other words. It is just wrong to do that because those people need that service and if they are going to have to pay more for these people, I really don't know. They claim they are not but if they are, I don't know that but I still think the bill is a good bill because it is going to help those small hospitals and I still would disagree with Senator Haberman. I have had some calls that way too and when I have explained it to them why they said no, it is going to help us. It is not going to hurt us.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support Senator Clark. The letters that came to a few of us or maybe